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Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice: other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies

Report of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Note by the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute was prepared pursuant to a decision of the Board taken at its meeting held on 25 and 26 October 2017 to report to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The report contains information on the work of and the results achieved by the Institute, in accordance with its Statute (Council resolution 1989/56, annex).

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Results achieved by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

Report of the Board of Trustees

I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) was established pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1086 B (XXXIX) of 1965. The Institute is an autonomous institution of the United Nations and is governed by its Board of Trustees, who contribute by giving strategic direction and setting priorities. The Board reports periodically to the Council through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

2. Within the broad scope of its mandate to develop and implement improved policies in the field of crime prevention and control, the mission of UNICRI is to advance justice and the rule of law in support of peace and sustainable development. The Institute works in specialized niches within the areas of crime prevention, justice, security governance, counter-terrorism and social cohesion. With 50 years of experience, the Institute has structured its modus operandi in order to always be responsive to the needs of the international community.

3. UNICRI serves as a platform for consultation and cooperation among Member States, local government institutions, research institutions, international organizations, private entities and civil society. The enhancement of cross-sectoral dialogue and understanding and the promotion of the establishment of multidisciplinary groups to address emerging challenges are some of the strengths of the Institute.

4. The results-based programming of UNICRI is grounded in action-oriented research that is aimed at informing the capacity-building of practitioners and the training of scholars and at building a knowledge base for policy development and implementation. The Institute supports the design and implementation of holistic and innovative modalities to confront traditional and emerging threats at both the national and cross-border levels. In particular, the Institute assesses threats and needs; develops and shares knowledge; acts as a global training and capacity-building centre; acts as a global forum to identify, tailor and test strategies and practical models at the field level; promotes national, regional and international law enforcement cooperation and judicial assistance; establishes platforms for consultation and cooperation; and provides advisory services.

5. The Institute contributes to socioeconomic development, increased security and the protection of human rights by designing practical models and systems aimed at providing support for policy formulation, implementation and evaluation.

6. The work undertaken by UNICRI in 2017 was funded exclusively from voluntary contributions. Its primary donors were Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Thailand, the United States of America, the European Commission, the European Union, and several private companies, foundations and international organizations.

7. The present report of the Board of Trustees contains a summary of the work completed during 2017 and is organized into the following three thematic areas:

(a) Security governance and counter-terrorism;

(b) Crime and justice;

(c) Training and advanced education.

8. UNICRI has a broad impact at the country, regional and international levels, and the beneficiaries of its technical assistance are wide-ranging. Its programme of activities is delivered through UNICRI headquarters in Turin, Italy, and an extended

network of offices, including a liaison office in Rome, project offices in Brussels and Geneva and the centres of excellence on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation in Abu Dhabi, Algiers, Amman, Manila, Nairobi, Rabat, Tashkent and Tbilisi.

II. Security governance and counter-terrorism

A. Prevention and countering of violent extremism and rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders

9. As a member of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, UNICRI contributes to the implementation of coordinated and coherent efforts across the United Nations system to prevent and counter terrorism. The Institute plays a key role in supporting Member States in translating into national policies the generalized good practices identified in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

10. In 2017, UNICRI provided Member States with actionable knowledge to strengthen national capacity using a comprehensive and tailored approach. That end-to-end approach, covering recruitment into terrorist organizations to disengagement from violent extremism and reintegration into society, allows the Institute to support States in diverting juveniles away from the criminal justice system, training criminal justice system actors on the nuances of cases relating to violent extremism and terrorism, rehabilitating violent extremist offenders, reintegrating offenders into the community and working with the community to promote a receptive and inclusive environment for those offenders. Most of the work of UNICRI is cutting-edge and involves pilot programmes.

1. Rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders

11. UNICRI has developed considerable expertise in the area of rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders. The Institute supports Member States in translating into national policies the generalized good practices of the Global Counterterrorism Forum Rome Memorandum, which addresses the rehabilitation needs of incarcerated violent extremists. Moreover, the work of UNICRI in that area is grounded in the provisions of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules). Both frameworks cover the importance of cooperation between and among all relevant public safety sectors in realizing the fair and humane treatment of all prisoners, including violent extremist offenders.

12. In the design and implementation of tailored rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for violent extremist offenders and high-risk inmates in prison settings, the Institute has relied on cooperation with, among others, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, the Philippines and Thailand. Based on those programmes, UNICRI has developed four model pathways that Member States may adopt and customize to design and implement rehabilitation programmes, namely: (a) a "traditional approach", in which a classification system of risks and needs assessments is completed before programme components are created and implemented; (b) an approach aimed at changing attitudes, in which programme components are developed and implemented one by one, with the achievements of each component informing the characteristics of the next component; (c) a "framework-to-programme" approach, in which a national action plan or strategy is developed as a first step; and (d) a "targeted approach", in which a gap analysis is conducted as a first step.

13. In Indonesia, for example, a risk-assessment tool known as I-IMAS was developed and tested, with a view to measuring the level of risk posed by prisoners. The tool can be used to inform the placement of prisoners in rehabilitation and

reintegration programmes, based on their needs and the risks they pose. It is important to address possible risks in prison environments, where convicted terrorists can network, compare and exchange information on tactics, radicalize and recruit new members, and command and control operations beyond the prison setting in the community. It is also crucial to address the risk of recidivism posed by detained extremists upon their release.

14. A specific training module on the adoption of the LITMAS risk assessment tool was formulated by national experts in cooperation with the Directorate General for Corrections of Indonesia. The training module was delivered to parole officers and Directorate staff in Bali from 20 to 23 February and in Yogyakarta from 27 February to 2 March 2017. Those training sessions were aimed at improving the understanding of the new risk indicators, enhancing capacity in the administration of the tool and developing soft skills in interviewing techniques and communication.

15. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the risk-assessment tool in identifying the level of risk posed by inmates, a pilot programme was carried out from 22 May to 30 June 2017 in 10 correctional facilities. The programme consisted of several activities, including interviews with inmates, gathering of secondary data, and data entry and analysis, and utilized a comprehensive data verification and monitoring mechanism. Parole officers who had been trained to administer the tool interviewed 560 inmates.

16. With the assistance of national and international experts and under the guidance of the senior directors of the Directorate General for Corrections of Indonesia, a national strategy on the treatment of high-risk inmates, including violent extremist offenders, was developed. The strategy is aimed at defining the roles, duties and responsibilities of all relevant actors involved in the treatment of high-risk inmates and sets out programme priorities, objectives and actions for improving their treatment throughout the criminal justice process, from the pre-conviction to the post-release phases.

17. In 2017, UNICRI enhanced its cooperation with Jordan for the development of a comprehensive rehabilitation and reintegration programme for incarcerated violent extremist offenders. In particular, the Institute started a close cooperation with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation of Jordan in the implementation of a long-term programme on activities in that field. An introductory three-day training course for psychologists and social workers from the Department was held in Amman from 14 to 16 March 2017. The course focused on the psychological and social needs of incarcerated violent extremist offenders throughout the process of disengagement from violent extremism, the completion of rehabilitation, and eventual reintegration into society. An advanced training course for psychologists and social workers was held in Amman from 17 to 19 April 2017. The course focused on techniques relating to the following: interviewing violent extremist offenders, risk assessment and classification, dealing with recalcitrant inmates, and evaluating the results of rehabilitation and reintegration programmes.

18. Mirroring a multidisciplinary workshop delivered in 2016, a training session for high-level prison managers was held in Amman from 27 to 29 March 2017. As a result, the prison management authorities of Jordan have now received uniform introductory training on setting up a framework for effective rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist offenders in prison settings.

19. The training courses involving prison managers, psychologists and social workers led to increased capacity-building and the exchange of information on good practices already employed at the national level, combined with the introduction of new practices from the international sphere and the creation of foundational networks at the practitioner level.

20. Since 2016, the Government of Mali has been expressing a strong interest in cooperating with UNICRI with regard to the challenges encountered in managing violent extremist offenders in prisons. UNICRI has been cooperating closely with the

International Centre for Counter-Terrorism, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the National Directorate of Prison Administration and Supervised Education.

21. In April 2017, UNICRI, in collaboration with the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism, organized a training programme for young religious leaders on violent extremism and its manifestations in prison settings. The training programme, involving participants from all regions of Mali, was aimed at building upon the knowledge of religious leaders on radicalism and violent extremism — including the factors conducive to radicalization and the dynamics of radicalization in the prison context — and analysing the role of religious leaders in preventing and countering radicalization. Participants identified several recommendations on the role that religious leaders could play in preventing and countering radicalization.

22. In August 2017, UNICRI, in collaboration with the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism and with the support of MINUSMA, organized a training session on risk assessment. The session focused on risk identification and assessment and was aimed at enhancing the capacity of prison staff managing violent extremist detainees.

23. In parallel, UNICRI and the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism conducted interviews with national and international experts and with inmates charged with terrorism-related offences. The data collected have shaped the work of UNICRI in Mali with regard to the design and implementation of tailored and effective rehabilitation strategies and the development of comprehensive analysis of the phenomenon of terrorism in the country.

24. In Thailand, UNICRI has been working closely with the Department of Corrections, under the aegis of the Ministry of Justice, on the development and implementation of a culturally sensitive risk assessment index and the creation of a module aimed at strengthening the role of the family in reducing the risk of radicalization. In 2017, workshops were organized to finalize the components of the programme, which were based on the risk assessment index, and to discuss the strategy. During a workshop held in June, prison staff and religious experts addressed issues related to religion in the rehabilitation and reintegration process. The outcome of the faith-based workshop was a series of recommendations on actions to be taken to enhance inter-religious dialogue.

25. UNICRI has also been working with the Government of Morocco to develop tailored rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for violent extremist offenders in prison settings, with a particular focus on classification and risk assessment, the training of prison staff and linkages between reintegration and aftercare programmes. In May 2017, UNICRI and the Department for Prison Administration of Morocco decided to expand their area of cooperation on the basis of the positive results achieved in 2016, when a training course for all psychologists working in prison was delivered.

26. UNICRI started exploring the possibility of working jointly with the Department of Prison Administration of Italy to design and deliver training activities for prison personnel who deal with violent extremist offenders, thereby building on the expertise gained in other countries. The Prison Administration of Morocco offered to contribute to the training activities by providing its expertise and personnel, who could work with prison personnel from Italy, providing support as cultural mediators or trainers.

2. Countering radicalization and violent extremism in the Sahel-Maghreb region through the engagement of civil society

27. A project on countering radicalization and violent extremism in the Sahel-Maghreb region, funded by the European Commission, builds on the existing models for community engagement in the prevention of violent extremism, based on the assumption that civil society is a key agent in preventing and countering the rise of extremist ideologies and violence. Fact-finding missions to identify current initiatives on countering violent extremism and to raise awareness about the project

were conducted in Algeria, Chad, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. An assessment and the launch of two public calls (one for the Maghreb and one for the Sahel) resulted in the selection of a group of grantees and implementing partners for projects to be implemented in 2017 and 2018.

28. Through the project, financial support will be provided to between 20 and 25 civil society actors for mitigating conflict and countering violent extremism, including through the following: (a) dissemination of information on democratic culture and values; (b) training courses and capacity-building for young leaders and projects in schools to address violence and enhance tolerance and dialogue; (c) promotion and dissemination of democratic values through art, theatre, music, culture and the protection of the environment; (d) support to the media, establishment of journalist unions and promotion of local radio stations and radio associations; (e) organization of activities with religious groups, with a view to promoting a democratic culture and a culture of respect for women; and (f) building new or strengthening existing networks of civil society organizations.

29. Grant agreements with civil society actors were signed between March and May 2017, and the implementation of the projects has since commenced. Under the project, it is envisaged that methods will be developed to assess and monitor the different initiatives in order to identify the more successful interventions and the reasons behind their success, or lack thereof, and to address the lack of rigorously tested quantitative and qualitative field research.

3. Assessing the pre-conditions for developing a pilot programme to divert juveniles from violent extremism

30. In the framework of a two-year research project addressing the issue of foreign terrorist fighters and others at risk, a preliminary analysis of juvenile justice systems and alternative measures and diversion programmes was conducted in five countries.

31. Under the second phase of the project, cooperation with Member States was envisaged in order to design pilot diversion programmes. In that respect, a successful dialogue was initiated with key stakeholders in Kenya. During consultations, it was decided that the scope of the research would be widened to include other vulnerable groups, in addition to juveniles, and to further develop the research on the use of probation in such cases. The research is to be mainly focused on the development of international guidelines to improve probation mechanisms, diversion and alternative measures for the protection of vulnerable groups allegedly involved in terrorism activities. An additional component of the project is the organization in Kenya of workshops on the benefits of diversion and alternative measures for tackling the radicalization cycle, and on probation, for which there is a solid legal framework in Kenya, as well as solid experience.

4. Breaking the organized crime and terrorism nexus: identifying programmatic approaches

32. There is a growing convergence of organized criminal groups and terrorist groups, through transactional, ideological, territorial and strategic links. Accordingly, UNICRI is analysing the phenomenon by examining those links. The interactions are not straightforward, with each case being context-specific, rooted in historical conditions and constantly evolving. Under the comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy of UNICRI and in line with Security Council resolution 2195 (2014), on threats to international peace and security, the Institute aims to support the development of effective policies and programmatic responses.

33. In 2016 and 2017, the Institute involved experts and governmental entities in workshops to address that issue and identify challenges and actions related to tackling different problems deriving from that convergence. In particular, UNICRI and the Thailand Institute of Justice led a group of experts to review the current evidence base and conceptual theories related to the organized crime and terrorism nexus, in order to test them against the experts' areas of expertise, and to draw from their knowledge

and best practices, with a view to identifying a series of programme priorities. Efforts that could be undertaken to tackle the nexus include: (a) improving judicial systems; (b) enhancing cooperation between border police and financial intelligence units; (c) establishing public-private partnerships; and (d) promoting the involvement of civil society and local communities.

B. Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation

34. UNICRI supports the development of an integrated chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation approach that incorporates all such components — whether international, regional and national — into a common strategy. Creating such a strategy entails the application of a holistic approach through which all stakeholders, while operating autonomously, can establish common goals, identify and manage resources to achieve those goals, clearly allocate responsibilities and tasks, set up functioning channels of communication, create a security culture based on common learning, and ensure that lessons learned are incorporated and absorbed throughout the whole system.

Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation centres of excellence initiative

35. The chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation centres of excellence initiative is funded by the European Union and is jointly implemented by UNICRI and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. By means of coherent and effective cooperation at the national, regional and international levels, the initiative was developed with the technical support of relevant international and regional organizations, European Union member States, regional experts and other stakeholders.

36. Having been launched eight years ago, the initiative is now well established and operating smoothly in the African Atlantic façade, Central Asia, East and Central Africa, the Middle East, Gulf Cooperation Council countries, North Africa and the Sahel, South-East Asia, and South-Eastern and Eastern Europe. In each of those regions, UNICRI has set up a secretariat that promotes close cooperation among partner countries and facilitates the implementation of activities. The secretariats are each led by a head appointed by the host country and are supported in their operations by regional coordinators and local assistants recruited by UNICRI.

37. In 2017, the focus was on empowering countries to develop and rely more on their own expertise in reducing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats and on promoting the milestones they had reached. With the support of the African Atlantic façade regional secretariat, experts from 10 countries drafted technical reports on food safety and food security to serve as a basis for developing projects. That was the first time such a methodology had been applied to defining projects. A total of 20 countries with developed national action plans on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation promoted them, during a side event of the annual meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention, and with the Global Partnership countries. Afghanistan, Burundi, Liberia, the Niger, Senegal, Togo and Uzbekistan expressed interest in developing such a plan.

38. The initiative and its secretariats have received recognition for the work they successfully implemented in cooperation with partner countries and the international development community. The recognition has come in the form of expressions of interest in closer cooperation. Ethiopia and Pakistan completed the application process in 2017, bringing the total number of official partner countries to 57. In July 2017, the Director-General for International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission visited the secretariat for Central Asia during his visit to Uzbekistan, confirming its strategic role in advancing national security agendas.

39. Several meetings took place throughout 2017 within the framework of the initiative, including a meeting with chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear

stakeholders in Ethiopia on reinforcing risk mitigation capacities, and a round-table meeting for the national focal points for East and Central Africa to facilitate regional cooperation and strengthen chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear capabilities. The meeting involved 11 African countries and also focused on counterfeit medicines and radiological and nuclear issues.

C. Advances in technologies: benefits, risks and solutions

1. Security improvements through research, technology and innovation

40. UNICRI continued to support Member States in improving their security through the use of technology and started the development of a cooperation platform, which is to become a forum for discussion on improving security through research, technology and innovation. The platform will allow discussions on several topics, including supply chain security; blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies; biotechnology and nanotechnology; artificial intelligence; and management issues related to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear resources.

41. The initiative is aimed at increasing knowledge and information-sharing on security risks and technology features in key security areas, including supply chain security; management issues related to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear resources; security issues related to blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies; big data; biotechnology; and nanotechnology. The platform will promote dialogue and the sharing of good practices among technology providers, representatives of the public sector and industry associations.

42. The format of the project is expected to include the following steps: (a) discussion and validation of risk scenarios during meetings with experts; (b) identification of technology solutions to address relevant risk scenarios; and (c) communication of results using policy briefs.

43. In 2017, a series of meetings was held to present information on the use of research, technology and innovation to improve security, including technical workshops on big data and biotechnology. Several organizations expressed their interest in the project and in participating in its activities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Telecommunication Union, the International Tax Stamp Association, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the European Union Intellectual Property Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy.

2. International Network on Biotechnology

44. Advances in life sciences and biotechnology are enabling new possibilities in research, medicine and industry. Nonetheless, along with the emergence of these new realities, there are safety, security and ethical concerns that point to the need for responsible life science research and innovation. In that context, UNICRI launched the International Network on Biotechnology, which is committed to advancing education and raising awareness about responsible life science research and innovation.

45. On 12 and 13 July 2017, the Institute convened the first Network partners meeting, which was held in Geneva and attended by representatives of over 30 partner institutions. During the meeting, UNICRI highlighted several different types of educational resources developed within the framework of the Network, including awareness-raising videos; technology briefs, focusing on advances in biotechnology; virtual lab tours for training purposes; and tabletop exercises. Network partners responded positively, affirming the value of those types of educational resources and committing to further developing and disseminating such resources through their institutions.

3. Towards the establishment of the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

46. In September 2017, UNICRI and the Netherlands signed a host country agreement for the establishment of the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics in The Hague.

47. A consultation process with relevant stakeholders was started in 2014, with the aim of advancing discussion on the governance of robotics and artificial intelligence. The Centre is an important achievement as part of that process and is expected to contribute to enhancing understanding of the risk-benefit duality of artificial intelligence and robotics through improved coordination, knowledge collection and dissemination, training, awareness-raising and outreach activities. The work of the Centre will include monitoring global developments, promoting the establishment of an international network in the area of artificial intelligence and robotics, and contributing to policymaking. Building consensus among concerned communities, whether national, regional, international, public or private, from theoretical and practical perspectives in a balanced and comprehensive manner is to be an integral part the Centre's approach.

D. Tourism security in Latin American countries

48. A project on strengthening crime prevention and response in tourism destinations in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean was launched in cooperation with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States, with a view to providing assistance to at least 15 member States in Latin America and the Caribbean. In many countries, tourism is considered a primary economic resource. Consequently, enhancing tourism security represents a key element for economic development.

49. The project is intended to enhance the professional and technical expertise of public and private security officials of member States of the Organization of American States, with a specific focus on building public-private partnerships. The training activities are tailored to a public-private audience and structured to encourage cooperation. In particular, an aim of the project is to establish and promote a permanent mechanism of cooperation with regard to security planning and the protection of tourist destinations. It draws on the extensive experience and well-established networks set up by UNICRI and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism in the region.

50. The three types of activities set out below have been implemented in the framework of the project.

1. Basic training courses on tourism security

51. UNICRI and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism aim to develop a comprehensive capacity-building methodology on tourism security that is based on a training module targeting specific groups of beneficiaries involved in tourism protection. In August 2017, a training course was delivered in Bridgetown. Courses were also delivered in Mexico: in Querétaro and Playa del Carmen in August and in Tijuana and Mazatlán in November.

2. Integrated tourism security plans through the establishment of public-private partnerships

52. UNICRI and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism are promoting a comprehensive methodology for the establishment of public-private partnerships in support of the design of integrated security plans involving relevant stakeholders in three member States. In each location, UNICRI and the Committee will organize preparatory meetings with the involvement of public and private stakeholders in the tourism sector. Following the meeting, scenario-based exercises will be submitted to participating stakeholders over a period of 12 to 15 weeks using a dedicated electronic

platform. The main objective of the exercises is to test, evaluate and improve security strategies and operating procedures in order to provide inputs for inclusion in a comprehensive tourist plan. Based on the inputs received during the exercises and information gathered through the various activities, UNICRI and the Committee will develop a comprehensive security plan for that destination, in full consultation with the local private and public network. The security plan will be approved by the local authority during the final workshop. In 2017, a planning session was held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, and an initial training session was delivered to relevant stakeholders in San José.

3. Specialized training on risk management and crime prevention in tourism destinations

53. UNICRI and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, in partnership with specialized agencies from international and national law enforcement bodies — including the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Police Community of the Americas (AMERIPOL) and INTERPOL — developed and delivered specialized training courses on countering serious crime to three selected tourist destinations. Based on desk research and in consultation with local authorities, UNICRI and the Committee developed the content of the specialized training course. Priority was given to serious crimes that violate human rights and target vulnerable groups. After each training course, UNICRI drafted a comprehensive report and a set of recommendations for the involved parties. Within that framework, specialized training was delivered in Antigua and Guatemala in October 2017.

III. Crime and justice

A. Pilot project for Arab Spring countries on asset recovery

54. In 2017, UNICRI continued to assist Egypt, Libya and Tunisia, and the Camden Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network, in establishing new mechanisms to more effectively trace and recover illicitly obtained assets in the framework of the pilot project for Arab Spring countries on asset recovery. The project also involved coordinating with other international partners, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, and keeping the delegations of the European Union in all three beneficiary countries informed about project implementation.

55. In Tunisia, further political progress has been made towards establishing a new civil asset forfeiture law, the first of its kind in North Africa. The Ministry of State Property of Tunisia is leading the efforts for a civil forfeiture law to be promulgated. UNICRI is providing support to that Ministry, and the Ministry of Justice, in their efforts to adopt more sustainable mechanisms for recovering and managing illicitly obtained assets.

56. In 2017, expert missions were organized for various national stakeholders of the asset recovery and asset management offices in Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Romania. Other stakeholders, including analysis and investigative bodies, financial intelligence units and law enforcement agencies, judicial authorities, ministries of finance, tax verification authorities and policymakers, participated in the missions. Specialized training sessions were delivered on financial analysis for several asset recovery stakeholders in Egypt and Tunisia. Feedback from the training sessions provided the basis for a guide on financial analysis that will be tailored to the specific legal and institutional framework of each country.

57. In February, in the light of the fact that the work of UNICRI had produced concrete results in terms of asset recovery, all key counterparts from Egypt, Libya and Tunisia, as well as the European Union, indicated that they would like UNICRI technical guidance and support to continue beyond June 2018.

B. Cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office

58. UNICRI and the European Union Intellectual Property Office signed a cooperation agreement covering three projects implemented in 2017.

1. Criminal case studies relating to intellectual property rights

59. A project involving the in-depth analysis of case studies on infringements of intellectual property rights was aimed at strengthening the knowledge of and developing new skills among key legal stakeholders, in particular judges and prosecutors, in the fight against intellectual property offences.

60. A set of pilot case studies related to operations and investigations conducted by European law enforcement bodies were reviewed and analysed, with a view to enhancing knowledge and laying the foundation for the development of awareness-raising and training sessions for judges and prosecutors. The initiative involved cooperation with several stakeholders in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Sweden, and with representatives of Eurojust.

2. Malware study

61. The purpose of the study on malware was to carry out independent data-driven research to identify, dissect, analyse and describe specific means of disseminating malware, in connection with infringements of copyright-protected digital content. The results of the study are intended to provide a deeper understanding of malware threats and help to identify responses to tackle the challenge of online copyright infringements. The final report was integrated into an analysis of malware samples carried out using the platform of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol). The report contains an explanation of malware dissemination techniques.

3. Study on the role of organized crime in the trafficking of counterfeit products from China to Europe

62. The study on the role of organized crime in the trafficking of counterfeit products from China to Europe was aimed at providing information, data and knowledge on the role of transnational organized crime in the production of and trade in counterfeit products, in particular with regard to trafficking involving China and the European Union. The study provided a comprehensive picture of organized crime operations and presented case studies related to various target countries. The research highlighted the specificities of the criminal networks involved, the cooperation schemes existing between criminal groups of different nationalities, trafficking and concealment methods, routes and main hubs, and the related money-laundering and money transfer operations from the European Union to China.

C. State of knowledge on approaches to combating crimes that have serious environmental impacts

63. UNICRI continues to expand its applied research programme on environmental crimes. In that connection, in 2017, UNICRI, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), conducted research into current knowledge on crimes that have a serious impact on the environment. The research was aimed at enhancing the understanding and awareness of those crimes and supporting the development and improved implementation of responses for tackling those crimes at the international, regional and national levels.

64. UNICRI and UNEP have developed a project methodology that fosters a global approach to understanding environmental crimes by employing an expert process. UNICRI conducted preliminary research into the current status of knowledge made publicly available by international organizations and national Governments. The draft

study was submitted to a panel of eight international experts, selected by UNEP to be members of the technical advisory committee of the project. The technical advisory committee met at UNICRI headquarters (15 and 16 June 2017) to discuss the structure and content of the report, provide new data and support the early development of recommendations. The first draft was revised by UNICRI based on the feedback and input of the members of the committee, and it was shared again with the members in order to collect examples of good practices. The second draft of the study, integrating the outcomes from the meeting of the committee, was then submitted to a group of experts composed of UNEP representatives and examined during a second meeting, held in Rome from 13 to 15 September 2017. In addition, nominated focal points from the Montevideo programme reviewed the study at several stages of the process, in order to submit contributions and comments. In December 2017, the study was finalized, taking into account the feedback and ideas gained from the expert process.

D. Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

65. In 2017, UNICRI started the implementation of an initiative aimed at generating new knowledge on the challenges associated with, and the progress made in, measuring and achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In particular, the initiative focuses on indicator 16.4.1, related to combating illicit financial flows. Owing to the challenges related to its measurement, indicator 16.4.1 is known as the "orphan indicator" and is located in tier III of the classification of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, meaning that an internationally established methodology or set of standards is either not yet available, or is being (or will be) developed or tested. The first challenge arises from the lack of agreement on the conceptual grounding. In that context, under the initiative, UNICRI will contribute to identifying a widely acceptable concept and definition of illicit financial flows. The Institute is working closely with other United Nations bodies in exploring innovative approaches that are capable of adequately measuring progress toward the achievement of Goal 16.

IV. Training and advanced education

66. In line with its core mission, the Institute designs and delivers training programmes on matters related to crime prevention, criminal justice and human rights protection. Training activities contribute to the transfer of the expertise developed by the Institute.

1. International expert programme in investigative and legal psychology

67. The unique structure of the programme equips participants with cross-cutting proficiencies and academic skills in various fields related to forensic psychology. The programme addresses the cardinal legal and psychological concepts used in a forensic context. In 2017, a second edition of the programme was delivered by UNICRI, in cooperation with Abo Akademi University (Finland) and with the support of the Salesian University Institute of Turin (Italy) and its affiliated Crimelab.

2. Specialized training programme on international criminal law and global threats to peace and security

68. The first edition of a specialized training programme on international criminal law and global threats to peace and security was held from March to June 2017 and was attended by participants from Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America, as well as the United States. The training programme focused on various areas of crime and justice, including: organized crime and corruption; terrorism and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks; cybercrime and artificial intelligence;

trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants; environmental crime; international criminal justice and human rights. The training programme also provided the opportunity to share expertise and present the results achieved in those areas within the framework of the projects implemented by UNICRI. In view of the successful delivery of the training, a second edition was delivered in the second half of 2017.

3. Specialized course for media and security professionals on the risks and benefits of artificial intelligence and robotics

69. A specialized course for media and security professionals was organized in collaboration with, and hosted by, the Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). The course was attended by journalists and representatives of academia, international organizations and the private sector from 20 countries. Participants met with leading experts to increase their understanding of advancements in artificial intelligence and robotics, with a special focus on the potential global security implications of those enhancements. A report of the meeting was prepared and disseminated globally.

4. International criminal law defence seminar

70. The international criminal law defence seminar is organized annually in collaboration with the Office of Public Counsel for the Defence of the International Criminal Court, the International Union of Lawyers and the Turin Bar Association. The seminar promotes an accurate understanding of the techniques and strategies used by defence lawyers during international criminal trials.

5. Summer and winter schools on human rights, environmental crimes and transnational organized crime and terrorism

71. During the intensive, one-week summer and winter schools on human rights, environmental crimes and transnational organized crime and terrorism, participants are guided to critically deepen their knowledge in an emerging area of law related to human rights and crimes against the environment and the links between organized crime and terrorism.

6. International rapid-response programme and related training programme

72. While new threats and challenges are emerging, the lack of capacity of Member States to adopt prevention measures and responses is compromising the ability to contain different criminal phenomena. The constantly evolving scenarios increasingly require adequate rapid-response capacities with the potential to produce positive and sustainable impacts in the short and long term. Such capacities are the main objective of a project that UNICRI started in 2017, building upon the responsibility to prevent, the responsibility to react and mitigate and the responsibility to rebuild. The initiative is aimed at creating a highly specialized rapid-response team and a related training programme that can address the immediate and long-term needs of Member States and regional and international organizations on issues and crises of relevance to criminal justice systems, including but not limited to crime prevention, law enforcement, and human rights and development.